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Weather Forecast for Saturday. Washington, June 25.-For Oklahoma and

Indian Territory: Partly cloudy; cooler; va-For Missouri and Kansas: Light showers Saturday afternoon; northeast winds, be-

coming southeast. FUTILE WAIL OF THE POPOCRATS. The Popocratic organs and erators are having a hard time in their efforts to belit-

tle the signs of returning prosperity. The more unmistakable the signs the more lusty their howls. Fortunately, as in the case of John Plowman's pig, there is little wool for the loud cry.

There is, however, a serious side to the spectacle presented by these alarmists. There is in it a humiliating illustration of the unpatriotic conduct that is frequently inspired by political disappointment. Such conduct is generally found among the superficial classes, to be sure, but these classes are generally affected by the representations or misrepresentations of their leaders.

The pitiful lack of moral responsibility and the dogged disregard for economic expediency displayed by these agitators is, therefore, worthy of comment, not for what it accomplishes against the present administration and the commercial welfare of the country at this time, but for what it represents and might achieve under other circumstances.

It was only a few weeks ago that a New York paper published a cruelly malicious and grossly misrepresentative article on the industrial conditions of the state of Ohio, for the sole purpose of discrediting language: "The day that France takes the McKinley administration. Immediately the Popocratic organs of the country took up and dreulated the article, and upon its flimsy and transparent details based their attacks upon the party that has just assumed the reigns of government.

When John Wanamaker, chagrined by defeat in a senatorial contest, soured on his party and belied his country, the alarmists which may render reinforcement of her found new material for circulation. On some such pretext as this they have been | make the first cannon which shall be fired ringing the changes ever since the election In Europe the signal for tearing up any of William McKinley.

care to be informed that conditions have improved ever since the presidential election, and especially since the inauguration So far the betterment has been the result of the settlement of the financial question and the return of confidence, but it has been so marked as to give great promise for the present administration when it shall have had time to make the necessary

changes in the tariff and revenue system. Meanwhile the alarmists, like vultures, follow the wave of prosperity with little to feed upon, but with a persistent howl of dissatisfaction. They assume the attitude of preferring distress rather than happiness, if happiness is to bring any credit to the Republican party. But their efforts are as futile as their motives are reprehensible.

WHEN TO SELL

Under what circumstances can a property owner of Kansas City better afford to sell his unproductive real estate than to

First, of course, when he can get for it more than it has cost him, counting principal and interest. Second, when he knows where he can use the proceeds to great advantage, even though they may show a loss on the land transaction itself. Third, when it seems altogether likely that the taxes and interest on taxes will outrun any possible selling price. Thus, if a man beloves that he can sell a certain lot in ten years for ten thousand dollars and knows he can sell it now for five thousand, he must determine if the ten thousand ten years hence, less taxes and interest on taxes between now and then, will be as good as five thousand now in hand, plus what this five thousand will earn in the

ten years. In the case presented, if the ten years' taxes amount to two thousand dollars, and the interest on that for the average time at 5 per cent amounts to \$600, then the ten thousand dollars ten years hence would be worth only \$7,400. Now, if to the five thousand dollars in hand to-day be added ten years' interest at 6 per cent, the five thousand is seen to be worth at the end of the ten years eight hundred dollars-or six hundred dollars more than the net proceeds of the first transaction. If more than 6 per cent can be earned with the five thousand dollars and if the risk of getting the ten thousand in ten years is to be considered, the computation will be still more strongly in favor of a quick sale.

Any sale of unimproved property to any person or party proposing to improve it is something to be desired by all, including the selling party, if he is getting as good returns as he can reasonably expect. If the seller is getting the best he can expect to get he should overlook the fact that he is losing on the original transaction. have the courage to take a loss when it is due to be taken is one of the chief characteristics of the best business talent.

CONVENTION HALL BUILDING FUND.

The subscriptions for stock in the con vention hall project have already reached more than \$75,000, not taking into consideration several pledges that are as good as subscriptions, but which have not yet been

made public. The support given this enterprise is characteristic of Kansas City. There has been He was a strict constructionist, and to a readiness and a generosity that bespeaks the public spirit prevailing in this community and the business foresight posgessed by the citizens in general. The many

as the numerous large ones, for they denote the extensive interest taken in this too long

delayed public utility. There is no longer any doubt but that there will be sufficient money at the command of the association to purchase a centrally located site and to erect thereon a building that will not only accommodate great gatherings, but one that will also be an ornament to the city.

So far, only two of the railroads entering Kansas City have named their subscriptions. It is expected, of course, that all the lines will give substantial aid to a project that must result in increasing their revenues, The Stock Yards Company and other big concerns that are expected to respond liberally have not yet responded to the appeal, but there is little doubt but that all of these large enterprises will be represented in the final list of stockholders.

Much credit is due to those who have already subscribed, as well as to those who have taken hold of the work involved in carrying out such a big undertaking.

The task of selecting a site, which is set for to-day, should not be a very difficult one, for several excellent locations have been offered. It is not improbable that some immediate benefits will come from the determination of this question. Some concessions should be secured from those property owners whose possessions will be enhanced by the location of the great buildng.

JEFFERSON AND THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE.

In the course of a recent article The Journal took occasion to express the opinion that the greatest piece of American statesmanship consummated since the formation of the government was the purchase of Leuisiana by Thomas Jefferson. We are now in receipt of a communication from a

Kansas reader who thinks we have exalted the connection of Jefferson with this affair, and who holds that the purchase was literally forced upon Jefferson's administration by the war necessities of the First Consul, Napoleon.

ing formed and connected together a power

power here impossible to France, we must

settlement she may have made, and for

holding the two continents of America in

sequestration for the common purposes of

the united British and American nations."

Napoleon led him to sell Louisiana cheap,

but that in no way dims the lustre of Jef-

ferson's indefatigable efforts to make our

ccuntry the possessor of it. Speaking of

Napoleon's willingness to sell Louisiana,

Parton's history thus recounts the lan-

guage used by the First Consul to one of his ministers: "I know the full value of

Louisiana, and I have been desirous of

repairing the fault of the French nego-

tlator who abandoned it in 1783. A few

lines of a treaty have restored it to me,

and I have scarcely recovered it when I

must expect to lose it. But if it escapes

from me, it shall one day cost dearer to

those who oblige me to strip myself of it

than to those to whom I wish to deliver

it. The English have successively taken

from France Canada, Cape Briton, New-

foundland, Nova Scotia and the richest

pertions of Asia. They shall not have the

Mississippi, which they covet. I have not

a moment to lose in putting it out of their

reach; I think of ceding it to the United

States. I can scarcely say that I cede it

to them, for it is not yet in our posses-

sion. If, however, I leave the least time

to our enemies, I shall only transmit an

empty title to those republicans whose

friendship I seek. They only ask of me

one town in Louisiana; but I already con-

appears to me that in the hands of this

growing power it will be more useful to

the policy and even to the commerce of

France than if I should attempt to keep

The next morning the First Consul re

sumed the conversation as follows: "Ir-

resolution and deliberation are no longer

in reason. I renounce Louisiana. It is

not only New Orleans that I will cede, it

is the whole colony, without any reserva-

tion. I direct you to negotiate this affair

with the envoys of the United States. Do

not even await the arrival of Mr. Monroe

Have an interview this very day with Mr.

Livingston. But I require a great deal of

money for this war; I would not like to

commence it with new contributions. If

I should regulate my terms according to

the value of those vast regions to the

United States, the indemnity would have

no limit. I will be moderate, in consider-

ation of the necessity in which I am of

making a sale. But keep this to yourself.

I want fifty millions of francs, and for less

than that sum I will not treat; I would

rather make a desperate attempt to keep

those fine countries. To-morrow you shall

And on the morrow, or within the few

days which followed, the negotiations were

ended by the acceptance of \$15,000,000 for

Louisiana, and the last words uttered by

Napoleon in reference to the transfer were

these: "I have just given to England a

maritime rival that sooner or later will

If anything were lacking to disclose the

intensity of purpose on the part of Jeffer-

son to become possessed of Louisiana it

might be found in the violence he did to

his own interpretation of the constitution.

complete the Louisiana purchase he must

perform an act not authorized by that in-

strument. He was halted upon that vague

line which sometimes marks the distinction

have your full powers."

humble her power."

It is quite true that the necessities of

surance that there will be no tornadoes Our Kansas friend must have read histhis summer. Those whose houses are tory with a singular perversion of vision blown down over their heads will have the if he has found anything to detract from satisfaction of knowing that it was done the importance of Jefferson's connection by some other kind of storm. with the Louisiana purchase. Before France had come into possession of the The Hon. Jerry Botkin, of Kansas, reterritory by virtue of treaty with Spain, gards it as an outrage that Tom Reed Jefferson had enunciated the proposition that it must pass to the ownership of the United States at whatever cost. In a letter

stubbornly stands between him and all the great things he intended to do for the country. Let the Hon. Jerry keep quiet and to Minister Livingston on April 18, 1802, at the country will not know what it is losthe time when the French and Spanish ing. It hasn't suspected anything yet. treaty was pending, the president wrote as follows: "We have ever looked to France Senator Billy Mason seems determined to as our natural friend-one with whom we keep up his reputation as a humorist. He could never have an occasion of difference; declares Hanna is a coward and Tom Reed

After he had taken the decisive step he

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Debs chase after the millennium is

more unpromising, if possible, than Bryan's

for some time."

away from.

icans also.

promptly voted down.

inches in circumference.

with this country's military prowess.

Queer things happen in storms. At Cham-

ols, Mo., a tent which had stood up through

one of Sam Jones' sermons was carried

Most of the victims of pickpockets at the

queen's jubilee, it is said, were Americans,

But the British can't boast. Most of the

skillful pickpockets were probably Amer-

Observer Connor gives the pleasing as-

away by a gust of wind from the outside.

chase after the presidency.

peka hailstones-not this season.

but there is on the globe one single spot, a failure, and says Cuba will be free in the possessor of which is our natural and thirty days. Nothing could be more ridicuhabitual enemy. It is New Orleans, through lously funny than these three statements, which the produce of three-eighths of our unless somebody should venture the asserterritory must pass to market. France, tion that Mason is a statesman, placing herself in that door, will assume The pessimists are certain that Republic to us the attitude of defiance." Further an legislation will not produce prosperity, along in the same letter Jefferson uses this but they are willing to give it a chance.

If, within a week after the tariff bill passpossession of New Orleans fixes the senes, every man in the country has everytence which is to restrain her forever withthing he wants and money in the bank, in her low-water mark. It seals the union they will admit that there has been a slight of two nations, who, in conjunction, can temporary improvement, due principally maintain exclusive possession of the ocean. to the fine farm crops. From that moment we must marry ourselves to the British fleet and nation. Hav-

It is wonderful how much Representative Botkin has learned about the power of the lebby and the depravity of congress in his brief three months' stay at Washington, especially as the branch of congress to which he belongs has been in session only preacher before he turned "reformer," peo ple might suspect he was merely talking for

KANSAS TOPICS.

How can the calamity howlers deny the existence of a wave of prosperity in the face of such testimony as this from the Arkansas City Traveler: "Last year Reformer Ed Jaquins paid taxes on \$10. This year, through the seductive and moralizing influences of the Traveler, he turned over

\$2,903 to the personal tax assessor."

At a meeting of citizens called to consider the compromise of some water works bonds at Arkansas City the other day, J. Mack Love, chairman of the Democratic state entral committee, made an impassioned speech, in which he declared that "value on all property in this and other cities has shrunk from 50 to 500 per cent." This reminds Topics of a cattle raising friend out in Western Kansas who delefully reported at the end of an extremely hard winter that

he had lost 200 per cent of his herd.

Mary Elizabeth Lease makes a big fuss over the loss of her Wichlia home at the hands of an Eastern mortgage company but she would rather lose everything she possesses on earth than have her baggage attached at Kansas City again for the payment of a dry goods bill, thus permitti the newspapers to publish a list of the

things she carried in her value. Repeated exposures do not seem to shake the Oklahema people in their superstitious belief in cinches. They are pinning their faith now to one that connects Jake Adsider the colony as entirely lost, and it mire with the registership of the Kingfisher land office.

The Gazette says a certain Emporis young man worked his way into a theater performance for a straight week by dress-ing himself up as a woman. It was one of those shows that admit women free.

. . . It is said that Major J. D. M. Wood is to be appointed agent for the Ponca Indians in the territory. Major Wood is brother to the late Sam Wood, of Kansas.

A case not long since decided by the suoreme court of Kansas furnishes an Ilus tration of the fact that the ways of the law are devious. A couple had been arrested on the charge of immoral conduct. It was shown that they were free lovers who had stood up before witnesses and declared that they would take each other until either one got tired. They were con-victed in the district court, and an appeal was taken to the supreme court, The supreme court held that they had not been guilty of immoral conduct, but had been tightly married. The fact that they had attempted to make the irregular marriage provisional did not affect its full force and enduring character.

Cy Thurman, the well known Kansas aveling man, has a great head for figures. He recently purchased a farm in Missouri where he makes his summer home. Three nundred feet from the furm house is a pring from which all the water needed must be obtained. At a cost of \$26 Cy put in a hydraulic ram which forces the water up to the house in abundant quantities. The farm has been occupied sixty years, and Cy figures that exactly 11,000 miles have been walked by the people in carrying water from the spring. He thinks that \$26 for 11.000 miles of walking is mighty small pay. Cy also got his head together the other day while the hired man was cultivating corn and figured that in ten years the man who "works" forty acres of corn walks something more than 8,000 miles. The difference between the cost of a riding and walking cultivator is but \$9, which would seem to force the price of Missouri walking down to even a cheaper scale.

"Have you ever noticed," says the Topeka Capital, "how much more refreshing

basest treason, and he elected to do that out "of water" as irrelevant, incompetent which promised his country the greatest and immaterial. good regardless of the letter of the law,

wrote in this terse fashion to his attorney remains to be told. As we go to press the general: "The less that is said about any lies about it are increasing in magnitude. constitutional difficulty, the better. Con-Billy Sterne is authority for the stategress should do what is necessary in siment that Senator Baker has picked out a lence. I find but one opinion about the

\$3,200 place in the Indian service that will fit George Finley. necessity of shutting up the constitution Attorney: "Your honor, we desire to assail this law on the ground that it has the wrong heading, repeals a chapter with which it can have no connection, and is otherwise unconstitutional." The judge: "Was it adopted by the last session of the

legislature?" Attorney: "It judge: "Demurrer sustained." "It was." The Kansas hen may be a great institution, but she can't lay eggs as large as To-"A girl in this town," says the El Dorado Republican, "has just beaten the record. She can make buttermilk biscults, fry po-tatoes, broil a steak, make a pot of coffee If the stories of returned colonists are true, Liberia is one of the best countries in and ring the breakfast bell in thirty-four minutes from the time she lights out of the world for American negroes to stay

When stricken by terror a man hasn't If the senate has not improved the tariff half as much intellect as a jackrabbit During the storm at Topeka on Thursday bill it has at least preserved it. Nearly A. V. Lindell saw the clouds approaching every one of the Vest amendments was and decided that they contained a cyclone He had no cellar under his own house, so he hurried his family over to the cellar of a neighbor and returned to his own prem-Pueblo doubtless means well, but Topeka will have to smile at the pretensions of a ises to shut a door or something. Just at town whose hailstones measure only eleven ment he heard the roar that preceded the fall of hail, and, supposing the yelone had struck, threw himself face lownward in a ditch. The hallstones com-Perhaps it would be well to let General menced to pound him, but he believed they were bricks being blown from the house Miles extend his travels to Japan. The Japs don't seem to be properly impressed walls and retained his position in the ditch. giving out a yell or a groan every time a

> and pulled him up from the ditch, and got him under cover on a porch. Sang-froid-under-excitement item from the Coffeyville Journal: "Time, half past 12 o'clock Wednesday. Everybody at dinher except the writer and a 'hoozy' denizer of the Indian Territory, who was discuss ing the latest movements of the Dawes commission with another Cherokee citizen on the sidewalk in front of Joe Robert's place. Suddenly there was a most startling rattling of wheels and the sound of the rapid strokes of horses' hoofs on the Ninth street macadam. We looked up just in time to see a badly frightened team attached to a hay wagon, tearing by in a westerly direction at a most terrific rate of speed. We had no time to so much as look after them as they sped onward. Nobody seemed concerned except a boy and a negro porter. The 'boozy' Indian talked

big one hit him. Finally his wife ran out

on and the writer wrote on. All sorts of stories are affoat over the appointment of an assistant United States attorney for Kansas. It was said at first by everybody that Harry Bone was a certainty, but lately D. M. Brown, of Wichita, has been receiving a great deal of attention. One story had it that Brown was a cousin of the president and that his appointment was sure to come, from personal considerations. Later it was said that Brown was no relation to McKinley, but that he formerly lived in Canton and was the man who put McKinley in nomination the first time he went to congress. Sam Peters says McKinley will not interfere with Senator Baker's choice in the matter and that Baker is favorable to Bone, as he certainly ought to be, in consideration of Bone's support in the legislature. Mr. Lambert is also quoted as saying that Bone will be appointed.

Major I. O. Pickering, of Olathe, has written the following letter to a Topeka

"I cut the following slip from the Topeka Capital: 'For rent-3 unfurnished rooms for light house keeping.' Now, as a resident of our capital city, and a man of known veracity, I wish to ask if Topeka is a seaport town? If not, why should anyone wish to keep a lighthouse? Or why should anyone want to rent three, or any other number, of unfurnished rooms for that purpose? I know the ship of state a few days. If Mr. Botkin hadn't been a has been floundering around in an unthere may be some hidden rocks and things around Topeka, all of which would make a lighthouse desirable and even necessary. If so, I hope this advertiser will soon have a tenant who will keep his lamps trimmed and burning. Your truly, "I. O. PICKERING."

> There is an old Russian by the name of Anton Mermus out in Ellis county who has commenced harvesting his wheat and expects to have something more than 30,000 bushels. His family is so large that he will cut and thresh every acre of it without paying a dollar for outside help. He could pay all of the necessary expenses of this crop and still have money left to pay three times over the market value of the land on which it was raised. The wheat crop is good all over Ellis coun It is estimated that the total will be 2,500,000 bushels, and this, at 50 cents a bushel, means \$720 in the pocket of every voter in the county. If Ellis county could keep up such an average her people would soon be rich and affluent. Unfortunately, this is the first wheat crop of any impor ance she has raised since 1892.

> "If ever we marry again," says Ed Howe, "we intend to merry a queen. Prince Albert died forty years ago, and Queen Victoria still wears mourning for him. All the widows we know think their mourning was above reproach if they wore black six months."

MISSOURI POINTS.

Miss Fannie J. Henry, of Pattonsburg, was one of the prize winners in the medical department of Michigan university this Caldwell county game sharps declare that

present indications give promise that there will be quails and rabbits galore for the funters there next season.

The Carthage Press says Bryan looked jaded and worn when he talked there the other day, and appeared ten years older than when he visited Carthage a year ago. The Second Regiment band at Clinton

has been mustered out of the state's serv-ice, and the uniforms of its members have been turned over to the Fourth Regiment. If the Capital is accurate in its figures Sedalla contains 217 more buildings either completed or in course of erection than it could boast of at the beginning of the

The costs involved in the three different trials of a Ray county farmer on the charge of having stolen a chicken amount-ed to \$600, and then the defendant was

The cake enjoyed by the guests at the recent celebration of the 56th birthday anni-versary of Grandma Bunt, of Blythedale, was made for the occasion by the bright and vigorous old lady herself.

An ordinance which requires the payment

finally acquitted.

of a license of \$5 for a one-day privilege for selling ice cream in Lathrop has driven the promoters of church festivals there to the woods with their entertainments. Another remarkable strawberry record is that reported by a Bethany man who has gathered and sold 250 gallons of the fruit from a patch of ground 50x175—at the rate,

at prevailing prices, of more than \$300 an A striking illustration of the possibilities of Missouri's fertile soil is afforded in the achievements this season of Gabe Oder, of Holt, whose two-acre strawberry patch has netted him more than \$500 over all ex-

penses. Anticipating, presumably, the possibility that the threatened frequent rehearsals of Gus Leftwich's new brass band in Gallatin may have a tendency to drive many staid small substriptions are quite as significant | between the loftiest patriotism and the a drink of water is when you can hear the old citizens to strong drink, some far-

ice tinkle in the glass?" Moved to strike sighted business men have arranged for the opening of a jag-cure establishment there

If Hamilton doesn't raise h- during the The worst of the Topeka hall storm yet celebration next Saturday it will be due to no lack of effort on the part of the mem-bers of the arrangements committee. They have secured Mrs. Lease's positive promisto be present.

Hamilton poultry raisers have suffered so severely through the depredations of chicken thieves recently that some of them have begun trying the experiment of placing dynamite where it will be likely to the most good.

Further evidence of the special favor shown by Providence for Missouri occu-pants of His footstool appears in the discovery of a big vein of superior coal only twenty feet below the surface in the vicinity of Braymer the other day. Ten brothers and sisters, the oldest 55

and the youngest 35, sons and daughters of Giles Parsons, a pioneer of Gentry county. visited an Albany photographer in a the other day and had their pictures taken together. All were born in Howard township and all yet live in that locality. A Springfield woman berely escaped se-

rious if not fatal injury recently as a resuit of the explosion of an empty wine cask through the bunghole of which while leaning she had thrust a wire on the end of which was a lighted rag. As it was, her face and head were badly cut by flying fragments of the cask.

The greatly exploited "white horse brig-ade" which, not less than 1,000 strong, was to be the feature of the Bryan parade in Carthage Thursday, simmered down to straggling troop of forty-five. Girls with aburn tresses were also conspicuous by their absence, but there were plenty of "red-headed" committeemen when the ridiculous failure of their efforts to get up respectable procession became evident.

St. Joseph News: While Mayor Vories was absent in New York he found time not only see the city, but to examine nto the various branches of municipal government, with a view to introducing such features, in a minor way, as could be used to good effect in this city. The mayor was particularly impressed with the method of street cleaning in New York. The really large army of white uniformed nen made an imposing spectacle, and as the mayor watched them at work he ear nestly wished that St. Joseph could afford if not the army, the white suits. While Mayor Vories watched the agile atreet cleaners flitting hither and thither, jump ing on each speck of dirt as it fell, he learned something. He saw the street sprinklers come along and shower the asphalt pavement-clean and spitless-and there was no slipping and sliding. The pavement was clean before the sprinklers assed over it. This is the idea the mayor s introducing this week under the supervision of Street Commissioner Gibson, and t is working like a charm. It has been the custom heretofore to flood the streets with water regardless of the amount of dust and filth littered over the surface With the facilities at hand some improve ment can be made. It is to this end that the wheelmen asked the co-operation of the council and business men not long ago. Of the many bungling jobs done by the

late Democratic legislature of Missouri none, says the Springfield Republican, is fraught with greater damage to the state than the one which has been unearthed by the Greene county court and Prosecuting Attorney Wear, concerning the road law. By some inexcusable bungling work the aw in regard to opening new roads was repealed and no new provisions were made and the result is that road improv will have to remain at a standstill in the state of Missouri until the next legislature meets two years hence. This is indeed pretty state of affairs when all the world just now clamoring for better roads and when our own state was laying claims to having taken the first step towards the building of better roads. For the past four or five years road conventions have been held at various points in the state and many successful Democratic legislators made their campaign upon that issue. They serted that they were in favor of bette roads, and if elected would work for the passage of a bill that would inure to the benefit of all the people in that line. In-stead of enacting laws for the building and pening up of roads, the legislature gat as umb as an oyster and allowed the only law to be repealed without providing for nother in its stead. When it is rem bered that the greater portion of the time during the session was taken up by the kindred measures, it is not to be wondered at. The fact is, Missouri has had but few, if any, intelligent legislative bodies. There are a few shrewd men who chance to creep in, but their time is usually taken up with working some job or scheme through that ody so that they may feather their nests, and the other inefficient, deluded members go by.

The World Not So Old.

From the New York Tribun buked the other day by so eminent an au thority as Lord Kelvin at the annual meeting of the Victoria Institute in London The theme of his address was the familian and much debated one of the age of the earth, and he placed himself, as a physicist, squarely in opposition to the views of evolutionary biology. He did not, of ourse, attempt to solve the unsolvable problem. But he unhesitatingly opposed and denied the theory that life has existed upon this globe for hundreds of millions of years, and that such a space of time as been required for the evolution of pres ent forms.

The whole notion of such inconceivable acons was, he contended, preposterous, as vas also that of "unlimited" duration the globe. By calculations of the lessoning of the angular velocity of the rotation of the earth, the amount of heat it threw off and other matters, it was possible to determine a limit of time beyond which the globe could not be habitable by any form of life because beyond that point it was not a solid, but an incandescent or molte mass. That limit was about 20,000,000 years ago. It may not have been more than 17,-000,000. Certainly it could not have been more than 39,000,000. Somewhere between those figures, therefore, the age of the lifebearing earth could confidently be placed. It makes no practical difference to the man of to-day whether such age is 20,600,-000 or 20,006,000,000 years. It is not probable that there will ever be any universal agreement of scientists upon a date within ven so broad a margin as 12,000,000 years allowed by Lord Kelvin. But such utter ances as the address which we have quoted end strongly to sanity of thought and do rine, and that quality is needed in natural cience no less than in politics or theology. No man, scientist or layman, need be ashamed to accept on Lord Kelvin's authority the belief that life in any form on this globe is not at most more than 9,000,000 years old, nor indeed the still more during theory, of the same authority, that such life was of extraneous origin. The last word concerning biogenesis or in cosmol ogy has not yet been spoken.

His First View of Satura

From the Chicago Tribune.
"The city was full of them blamed bi-sickles till you couldn't rest," said Uncle Zeke, speaking of his visit, after he had re turned to his home in Upcreek. "Every wher's I went I was dodgin' of 'em. Wheels was whizzin' all the time. Feller on street corner had a telescope p'intin' at the sky. I paid him 5 cents to look through it, an' if you'll believe me, all I saw was another durned wheel!"

What She Wanted

From the Chicago Post. "Why does the young wife of old Mr. Croesus always look so unhappy? He gives everything she wants, doesn't he?" "Everything except widowhood."

SERENADE. While my lady sleepeth, The dark blue heaven is bright, Soft the moonbeam creepeth Round her bower all night. Thou gentle, gentle breeze! While my lady slumbers, Waft lightly through the trees Echoes of my numbers, Her dreaming ear to please.

Should ve, breathing numbers Should ye break her slumbers. All my soul would grieve, Rise on the gentle breeze, And gain her lattice' height O'er you poplar trees,-But be your echoes light As hum of distant bees.

All the stars are glowing In the glorious sky: In the stream scarce flowing Mimic lustres lie: Blow, gentle, gentle breeze But bring no cloud to hide Their dear resplendencies; Nor chase from Zara's side Dreams bright and pure as these -Santillana

BABYHOOD.

What likeness may define, and stray not From truth's exactest way, baby's beauty? Love can say not What likeness may.

The Mayflower loveliest held in May Of all that shine and stay not Laughs not in rosler disarray.

Sleek satin, swansdown, buds that play not As yet with winds that play, Would fain be matched with this, and may

What likeness may? -Algernon Charles Swinburne, THE POWER OF MUSIC.

One music maketh its occult abode In all things scatter'd from great Beauty's

hand; And evermore the deepest words of God Are yet the easiest to understand.

-William Watson. British and American Irony.

From the New York Advertiser. Under the title of "English Irony" Figure makes some caustic remarks about the at-titude of the English toward the Jameson raid. Lord Selborne's statement, under oath, is that he knew before the raid that "a spontaneous uprising" was going to take place at Johannesburg, the French paper calls one "of the most delicious turns of ex-pression that we have had to appreciate for a long time." The Figare correspondent has not the slightest doubt that the whole matter was fixed up in Chamberlain's office. "The language and attitude of Lord Selborne are equivalent to a declaration that the English are satisfied with what they have done, and are ready to begin over

again on the first occasion. Mark Twain's thoughts about the jubilee run in somewhat the same direction:

"Great Britain had added to her real es tate an average of 165 miles of territory per day for the sixty years, which is to say she has added more than the bulk of an England proper each year, or an aggregate of seventy Englands in sixty years. But Cecil Rhodes was not in the procession; the Chartered Company was absent from it. Nobody was there to collect their share of the giory due for their formidable contributions to the imperial estate. Even Dr. fameson was out, and yet he had tried so

hard to accumulate territory." Probably no more entertaining contrast between what is said and what is done than the Jameson episode offers has been seen since the Mexican war. Without obecting to England's territorial expansion, our American humorist naturally has a good time thinking of the decorum of the jubilee and the methods of the raid, just as the French critic amused himself with the care taken by the investigating committee not to hurt anybody's feelings. The procession, Mr. Clemens says, up rather of the beneficiaries of these prosperities than of the creators of them. Mark Twain also struck better than any-

view toward these contrasts: "It was a memorable display and live in history. It suggested the material glories of the reign finely and adequately. The absence of the chief creators of them was, perhaps, not a serious disadvantage One could supply the vacancies by imagination, and thus fill out the procession very effectively. One can enjoy a rainbow without necessarily forgetting the forces that made it."

Our frony is not just like the English brand. Indeed, it may be doubted whether the Figaro was justified in using the word frony about the English at all. Humor and mild cynicism make up irony. The English-men have more of the last than the first. We have so much of both that we may expect even our school books before long to give a fair account of the Mexican war.

Lion and Populist.

From the New York Sun. Some time ago Governor Leedy, of Kan sas, appointed a committee to confer with ommittees of Texas and Oklahoma the purpose of seeing what could be done to reduce freight rates. The Kansas committee has just made its report, after a pleasant free excursion to Texas.

The report asserts that the rates from Kansas to the Gulf of Mexico are too high, and suggests that the governor or the railroad commission plead with the railroads to put down rates before the fall shipping of grain to the South. If the pleading fails, as it will fail, on account of the obduracy of the railroad corporations, a special session of the legislature may be called for the purpose of passing the maximum freight bill, which failed at the regular session. These suggestions however, are felt to be tame and bloodless As the committee says, "the people are standing with their hand in the lion's mouth, and if he sees fit to crush them they can only submit."

So long as they depend on softening the hearts of traffic managers or even upor the good offices of the legislature, the hand will remain in the lion's mouth. If they are to save the hand, they must themselves. Here appears a great Kansas idea, clear to the whole school of advanced Kansas Populists, and to Governor Leedy the very apple of his eye. Build a state and interstate railroad from Kansus to Galveston. The committee says such a road can be built from the northern boundary line of Kansas to Galveston for \$8,000,-600. "Some way must be devised to bring the railroads under control or the people must take the bull by the horns and help themselves." It is to be wished that they may not help themselves to railroads which belong to other folks. The best thing they can do is to build a railroad of their own and bond it with non-interest bearing bonds. Then they can abolish rates, freigh and passenger, for all Populist consignors and travelers, smash the other railroads and enjoy themselves generally. A genuine Populist railroad, run for and by Popu lists, would be an education to everybod and a warning to plutocrats and monopo-lists, who would not be allowed to ride on it at any price; and a committee of the legislature in a buffet car could accompany every train.

Monopoly will have cold feet when it sees the first spike of the Kansas state railroad driven.

From the Fliegende Blatter. Traveler (to the ferryman crossing the river)-"Has any one ever been lost in this Boatman-"No, sir. Some professor wa drowned here last spring, but they found him again after looking for two weeks."

Source of Juvenile Income.

From the Chicago Record.
"Some clever fellow has invented taste less codliver oil."

"The wretch! Trying to beat innocent | week to | children out of a lot of dimes and nickels!" | president.

OF CURRENT INTEREST.

There is a French hotel uptown which frequently shelters Parisian notables whose presence in New York, the Sun says, is ever known to anybody but the proprietor of the hotel and those among his guests who are curious enough to examine the register. The persons who happen to be there do not make any attempt to conceal their whereabouts, but as their visits here are limited to only two or three days, the fact of their presence never becomes known. Some of them do register under names which may be their own, but are not their best known names. These transient visitors are never to be seen about the hotel for a longer time than the French steamers wait here between trips, and they are exclusively voyagers who are taking a steamship trip merely for the sake of the ocean journey. Beyond a ride in the park or a walk up Broadway, these strangers see very little of New York, which, so far as their efforts are concerned, remains a wilderness to them.

It is not generally known that the United States mints make money for other na-tions, as well as for our own. The mint in Philadelphia, which has just finished making \$500,000 in \$5 gold pieces for Costa. Rica, has begun work on 200,000 silver dol-lars for San Domingo. The designs on the coins are often ideas of the governments which send the orders, and are gotten up in such a way as to make imitations as difficult as possible for the counterfeiter. The coin is shipped in bags to New York. where it is carried to its destination on the regular line steamers. The report given by the mint as to the amount of precimetal used is never questioned by the foreigners.

John Edward De Merrit, of Newport, Neb., although only 13 years old, is attract-ing general attention by his ability as a preacher. He has preached at Fort Scott, Kas.; Nevada, Mo., and many other Kan-sas and Missouri towns. He was licensed to preach by the Baptist church of Fort scott last year, since which time he has seen traveling in the rural districts. He is not yet out of knee breeches, and has all he airs of a child except his delivery as a ulpit orator. He is said to have read the Bible through a number of times, and, though having attended school but little. to be well read in theological and general iterature. He preaches in churches of all denominations.

Methodist Bishop John P. Newman Grant's old pastor, visited South Onondaga, N. Y., on Sunday, in which town he was pastor of his first church fifty years ago. He made an address in which he told how he was obliged to walk a nine mile circuit and speak at four services every Sunday until a member of the congregation took pity on him and raised enough money to buy him a horse, "The horse had short legs," said the bishop, "and I had long legs; consequently I could by turns either walk or ride without dismounting. The salary for a year's service was \$100; and," said the bishop, "you owe me \$5 of that money yet.

Mile. Dumally is a French actress who thinks she strongly resembles Anna Held, and she is going to give imitations of that young woman. She has achieved notoriety by announcing that inasmuch as Miss Held inds milk baths beneficial, Langtry favors champagne and Bernhardt tea, she has discovered coffee is the only proper liquid for a brunette to use to keep her skin in tone.

coffee baths. "Grand old Texas," says the Dallas News, "is very kind to her children. This year's product will give to each inhabitant one forty bushels of corn, one fat hog, two bushels of peaches, twenty bushels of oats, one quarter of beef, thirty dozen eggs, ten chickens, one turkey, two pounds of honey, ten pounds of wool, half a mutton, half a bushel of Irish potatoes, twenty watermelons and many things unnecessary to

mention." During the American revolution an English magazine published an estimate of the future population of the North American Placing the population then at 2,000,000 and assuming that it would double itself every twenty-five years, the writer then estimated that in the year 1890 the number would have increased to 64,000,000. This may be taken as a most remarkable prophecy, inasmuch as the census of 1890

fixed the total population at 62,622,250. Richard W. Thompson, the former secre tary of the navy, has just passed his 88th birthday, and his mental and physical vig-or gives promise that he will celebrate nany more. He has seen, known and talked with every president except Washington and John Adams. As a young man he often discussed political subjects with omas Jefferson, and he was a friend of Madison, Monroe, John Quincy Adams and

Roanoke college made an acknowledg ment of the fact that a number of Koreans have been sent to it in order to be educated by conferring the honorary degree of A. M. on Pom Kwan Soh, formerly Korean minister to the United States, at its commencement last week. Mr. Soh is one of the most scholarly men in Korea, being especially versed in philosophy and psy-

A huge boulder makes a simple but imesing monument. One weighing fortyfive tons has been placed on the southe shore of Long Island, where Nathan Hale, afterward executed as a spy, was captured by British soldiers. The boulder bears three tablets, with inscriptions, including his famous sentence: "I only regret that

Elections cost money in New York, apart from political contributions and the milk-ing of candidates and their friends. It will cost the city \$323,500 to maintain its bureau of elections, and \$4,000 of it, or half the salary of a cabinet officer in Wash-ington, will go to its chief. Advertising will cost \$40,000 and an appropriation of \$79,500 is made for maps and printing.

Every man should judge himself by Dr. Charles W. Purdy's standard of living. the North American Review he says that "If a man who is born of healthy parents, and who is himself healthy at birth, bethe age of from 65 to 70, barring accidents or infectious diseases, it is solely because he has not lived properly." Cases against George Washington appear

here and there in the civil docket recently unearthed in the court house at Greensbury, Pa. No less than three claims were entered against him during the year 1787 to compel him to pay taxes. The humorous clerk, commenting on these actions, re-marked: "George Washington, Esq., appeareth not to like taxes."

The queen has outlived all but one of the British peers who were in possess their honors at the time of her accession, and she has outlived, with two exceptions, all those peers who were at the time mem bers of the house of commons, the two survivors being Earl Mansfield, born in 1806, and Earl Mexborough, born in 1810.

Lord Rosebery is one of the two or three Scotchmen of prominence who do not play goif. He fears that it would engross too much of his time. "When a man in mid-dle life," he says, "makes a deliberate choice of goif as his amusement he is making a choice second only in gravity to the choice of a wife."

ton, Ill., to the memory of Elijah Mountjoy, who was shot by a mob at that place in 1837, because of his active opposition to slavery. The Illinois legislature voted \$25,000 for the monument, and the citizens of Alton have raised \$5,000 more.

Four students of the Y. M. C. A. Train ing School in Springfield, Mass., certify that, as an experiment, they boarded themselves for eight weeks, at an average cost

The old home in Niles, O., in which President McKinley was born was sold last week to W. C. Allison, a relative of the